

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 CU-05 EUR-25 AID-20 PC-10 OMB-01 CIEP-03

OPR-02 SY-04 OC-06 CCO-00 DRC-01 /173 W

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P R 142221Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7709

INFO USCINCSO

DIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 6103

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, AR

SUBJECT: STUDENTS REACT TO TAIANA'S DEPARTURE

SUMMARY. FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT OF EDUCATION MINISTER
TAIANA'S RESIGNATION STUDENTS TOOK OVER UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS.
CLASSES CONTINUE AND NO VIOLENCE HAS BEEN REPORTED THOUGH
POTENTIAL FOR CONFLICT REMAINS. END SUMMARY

1. FOLLOWING YESTERDAY'S ANNOUNCEMENT BY GOA THAT EDUCATION
MINISTER TAIANA HAD RESIGNED AND WOULD BE REPLACED BY OSCAR
IVANISSEVICH (SEE SEPTTEL), THE UMBRELLA STUDENT POLITICAL
ORGANIZATION, FEDERACION UNIVERSITARIA PARA LA LIBERACION
NATINAL DE BUENOS AIRES (FULNBA), OCCUPIED THE RECTOR'S OFFICE
AND ELEVEN FACULTY BUILDINGS.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, EIGHTY STUDENTS ARE
OCCUPYING THE RECTOR'S OFFICE AND 800 MORE ARE HOLDING THE
11 FACULTIES. FUNLBA HAS ISSUED A STATEMENT "GUARANTYING"
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CLASSES WILL CONTINUE AS NORMAL DESPITE THE OCCUPATIONS.

SO FAR, NO INCIDENTS HAVE BEEN REPORTED.

3. FUNLBA, WITH GOOD REASON, NOTED THAT TAIANA'S DOWNFALL AND HIS REPLACEMENT BY IVANISSEVICH SIGNAL AN END TO UNCHALLENGED LEFTIST DOMINANCE AT THE UNIVERSITY. ACCORDING TO JUP LEADER, JOSE PABLO VENTURA, "THE IMPERIALIST OFFENSIVE TODAY ATTACKED THE MINISTER WHO HAD DONE THE MOST TO ADVANCE THE POPULAR PROGRAM OPTED FOR BY THE PEOPLE ON MARCH 11."

4. WHILE STUDENTS HAVE NOT YET REACTED VERBALLY TO THE RUMORS THAT RODOLFO TECERA DE FRANCO, AN ORTHODOX PERONIST, WILL REPLACE THE POPULAR LEFTIST RECTOR LAGUZZI, THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT THEY WILL OPPOSE HIS NOMINATION AS WELL AS THAT OF ANY OTHER NON-LEFTIST. INDEED, SEIZURE OF BUILDINGS MAY HAVE BEEN PROMPTED BY RUMORS OF TERCERA DEL FRANCO APPOINTMENT AS WELL AS NEWS OF TAIANA'S RESIGNATION.

5. COMMENT. THE STAGE HAS NOW BEEN SET FOR A SHOWDOWN BETWEEN ORTHODOX PERONIST AND LEFTIST STUDENTS. IF, AS APPEARS LIKELY, THE GOA IS PREPARED TO WREST THE LAST IMPORTANT INSTITUTIONAL BASTION FROM THE LEFTISTS, A FALSE MOVE BY EITHER SIDE COULD TOUCH OFF VIOLENCE. FURTHER, EVEN IF COOLER HEADS PREVAIL IN THE IMMEDIATE EVENT, THE PRESSURE FOR THE JUP, MONTONEROS, ET AL TO GO BACK TO ARMED RESISTANCE WILL HAVE GREATLY INCREASED.
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